

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00

FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TRSE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /122 W
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R 231311Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4342

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USINT BAGHDAD

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 5373

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ENRG KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT CRUDE PRODUCTION DELVEOPMENTS

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REF: (A) KUWAIT 5084 (NOTAL) (B) KUWAIT 4344 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO MINISTRY OF OIL SOURCE CURRENT KUWAIT OIL COMPANY CRUDE PRODUCTION IS ABOUT 1.8 MILLION BPD. THIS TS 300,000 BPD OR SO ABOVE OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER LEVELS. AMINOIL SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT ITS PRODUCTION HAD BEEN DOWN TO ABOUT 60-65,000 BPD DURING FIRST HALF OF DECEMBER BECAUSE OF LACK OF STORAGE CAPACITY AT MINA ABDULLA, BUT IN LAST FEW DAYS PRODUCTION AT 80,000 BPD LEVEL HAS BEENRESUMED. WE, THEREFORE, ESTIMATE THAT DECMEBER PRODUCTION FOR KOC, AMINOIL AND ARABIAN OIL COMPANY (KUWAIT SHARE ONLY) WILL BE ABOUT 2 MILLION BPD.

2. ACCORDING TO RECENT PRESS REPORT CHINESE PETROLEUM CO. OF TAIWAN HAS ENTERED INTO LONG TERM AGREEMENT TO BEGIN IN 1976 UNDER WHICH KUWAIT WOULD SUPPLY 40,000 BPD. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CHECK STORY BECAUSE KEY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN OUT OF TOWN FOR OPEC MEETING, BUT MINISTRY SOURCE WHO SAID HE WOULD KNOW IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED CLAIMED NOT TO HAVE SEEN ANYTHING TO SUPPORT NEWSPAPER STORY. KUWAIT ALREADY IS SUPPLYING TAIWAN WITH CRUDE UNDER DIRECT SALES CONTRACT, BUT AT A CONSIDERABLY LOWER LEVEL THAN 40,000 BPD.

3. COMMENT: AS DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE NOTICED WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE RECENTLY TO REPORT DETAILED KOC PRODUCTION AND EXPORT INFORMATION. REGULAR SOURCE OF SUCH REPORTS APPEARS TO HAVE STOPPED, AND THIS IS ALMOST CERTAINLY RELATED TO GOK TAKEOVER OF KOC. NORMALLY KUWAITI CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION STATISTICS ARE PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS, BUT FIGURES ARE NOT AT ALL DETAILED. APPEARS, THEREFORE, THAT EMBASSY REPORTING OF PRODUCTION AND PARTICULARLY OF EXPORTS MAY NOT BE AS COMPLETE IN FUTURE AS IT HAS BEEN IN PAST.
STOLTZFUS

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Message Attributes

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